

AMENDED IN SENATE JUNE 15, 1998

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—1997–98 REGULAR SESSION

Assembly Joint Resolution

No. 60

**Introduced by Assembly Members Richter, Alby, Baca, and
~~Bowler~~ *Bowler, and Ortiz***

(Coauthors: Senators Johnston and Leslie)

March 31, 1998

Assembly Joint Resolution No. 60—Relative to the 940th Air Refueling Wing, Beale Air Force Base, California.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AJR 60, as amended, Richter. 940th Air Refueling Wing.

This measure would memorialize the President and the Congress of the United States to endorse, support, and fund the 940th Air Refueling Wing as the next KC-135 unit to convert to KC135-R model aircraft.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, The United States Air Force Reserve
2 operational unit, which is now the 940th Air Refueling
3 Wing (940th ARW), has been in the Sacramento Valley
4 since 1963; and

5 WHEREAS, The 940th ARW, which has been located
6 at various times at Mather Air Force Base, McClellan Air
7 Force Base, and Beale Air Force Base, has a proud
8 tradition of supporting the nation's defense since ~~its~~ *the*
9 *940th ARW's* activation; and

1 WHEREAS, The mission of the 940th ARW is to
2 perform global air refueling and strategic airlift
3 operations, which allow other aircraft to fly far beyond
4 their normal range by overcoming the restrictions
5 imposed by limited onboard fuel capacity; and

6 WHEREAS, The 940th ARW has participated in many
7 conventional and humanitarian efforts that were
8 undertaken by the Department of Defense and the
9 United Nations, including rebuilding schools in
10 Honduras, providing food and medical supplies to
11 Somalia, and deployment in support of democracy in
12 Haiti; and

13 WHEREAS, The 940th ARW was the first Air Force
14 Reserve unit to establish ground operations in the Middle
15 East as a part of Desert Shield when it deployed hundreds
16 of United States military reservists to Saudi Arabia in
17 August 1991, just days after the invasion of Kuwait; and

18 WHEREAS, The 940th ARW continues to support
19 peace in Bosnia by supporting joint service missions and
20 conducting peacekeeping operations in the skies above
21 the former Yugoslavia; and

22 WHEREAS, The 940th ARW flies KC-135E model
23 aircraft equipped with TF-33 engines that are reaching
24 the end of their 10-year to 15-year life span; and

25 WHEREAS, ~~these~~ *These* engines are of 1960's
26 technology and do not meet contemporary international
27 or United States noise, emission, and fuel efficiency
28 standards; and

29 WHEREAS, Conversion to the KC-135R model engine
30 would provide each aircraft with 26 percent more thrust
31 on takeoff and 18 percent improved fuel consumption,
32 offering increased offload capacity of 20,000 pounds of
33 fuel; and

34 WHEREAS, The KC-135R model engine exceeds
35 in-flight noise standards and offers a 69 percent reduction
36 in in-flight engine emissions; and

37 WHEREAS, ~~these~~ *These* engines are widely used in the
38 commercial sector, making repair and parts available
39 worldwide; and

1 WHEREAS, The 940th ARW is the only air refueling
2 wing positioned in the central west coast that is capable
3 of conducting or hosting “bridge” refueling operations
4 for global deployment of United States Armed Forces to
5 the Pacific region; and

6 WHEREAS, Conversion to the KC-135R aircraft with
7 the multiport refueling system would allow the 940th
8 ARW to cost-effectively support United States Marine
9 Corps and United States Navy aircraft that are based at
10 El Centro, Lemoore, and Miramar, California, and at
11 Fallon, Nevada, as well as other locations worldwide; and

12 WHEREAS, The 940th ARW has been moved from
13 Mather AFB to McClellan AFB due to Base Realignment
14 and Closure (BRAC); and

15 WHEREAS, Conversion to the KC-135R model engine
16 would ensure that the 940th ARW remains a viable-force
17 structure asset and would preserve, for the Department
18 of Defense and the nation, the skills of its 950 members,
19 including 185 full-time employees of the unit who live in
20 the central valley, including Sacramento, El Dorado,
21 Yolo, Yuba, Sutter, Placer, and San Joaquin Counties; and

22 WHEREAS, Conversion to the KC-135R model engine
23 would protect the 940th ARW’s \$22,000,000 contribution
24 to the local economy in the form of maintaining salaries
25 and operating expenses; and

26 WHEREAS, The 940th ARW creates an estimated 300
27 secondary jobs; and

28 WHEREAS, The loss of the 940th ARW would have a
29 significant negative impact on the region’s economy; and

30 WHEREAS, Resource limitations may not allow the
31 United States Air Force Reserve to fund the conversion
32 of both of its remaining KC-135E units to the KC-135R
33 aircraft, since the Air Force Reserve Command has
34 earmarked funding for the conversion of four additional
35 aircraft, but has not decided which of the two remaining
36 KC-135E model units will be converted; now, therefore,
37 be it

38 *Resolved by the Assembly and Senate of the State of*
39 *California, jointly,* That the Legislature memorializes
40 the President and the Congress of the United States to

1 endorse, support, and fund the 940th ARW as the next
2 KC-135 unit to convert to KC135-R model aircraft,
3 because that conversion would ensure that the 940th
4 ARW remains a relevant, capable, and necessary part of
5 the United States Air Force mission in the 21st century
6 and a viable and productive asset to the Department of
7 Defense, the State of California, and the nation; and be it
8 further

9 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly
10 transmit copies of this resolution to the President and
11 Vice President of the United States, to the Speaker of the
12 United States House of Representatives, to each Senator
13 and Representative from California in the Congress of the
14 United States, and to each member of the Senate Armed
15 Services Committee and the House Veterans Affairs
16 Committee.

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